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**AEP**

**Staff Report Recommends Significantly Lower Rate Increase  
(Case Nos. 25-392-EL-AIR, et al.)**

**Summary:** As you may recall, back in May, AEP filed an application seeking to increase base distribution rates to customers in an amount of \$405.22 million before rider revenue offsets with a rate of return (ROR) of 7.64%. AEP also sought to further amend its discriminatory Data Center Tariff recently approved in Case No. 24-508-EL-ATA—which OMAEG plans to appeal. AEP proposes amending the tariff to (1) be applicable to *all* data center customers, (2) establish a \$20,000 per month supplemental customer charge, and (3) prevent pre-existing data center customers from participating in AEP's 1CP Basic Transmission Cost Rider (BTCR) Pilot Program.

This week, the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) Staff filed its report recommending a revenue increase between \$279.91 million and \$296.03 million and an ROR between 6.85% and 7.10%. Disappointingly, Staff also recommended approving all of AEP's requested revisions to the discriminatory data center tariff, except for the supplemental customer charge, and further recommended that data center customers be prevented from participating in AEP's 6CP BTCR Pilot Program.